GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7605
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
MANGROVE FORESTS IN GUJARAT AND ORISSA
A. VENKATESH NAIK;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing destruction of mangrove forests in Gujarat and Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons of the growing destruction of mangrove forests in these two States; and

(c) the steps taken to undertake new mangrove plantation in the sea coast of Orissa and Gujarat?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Destruction of mangroves in Gujarat is due to grazing and their use as fodder and fuel. In Orissa it is due to encroachment of mangrove areas for aquaculture, agricultural activities and house construction as well as their exploitation for fodder and fuel.

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs, Government of India have identified Gulf of Kutch and Gulf of Khambhat in Gujarat and Bhitarkanika, Mahanadi, Subernrekha, Dhamra and Devi estuaries in Orissa for afforestation, regeneration and protection of mangroves.